The above amendment has incorporated the limitation of Claim 3 into Claim 1. In the Board Decision dated April 29, 2010, the Board reversed the rejection of Claim 3 over the combination of <u>Takehisa/Fukuda¹</u> and <u>Strebelle</u>. See page 11 of the Board's Decision. Thus, the above amendment places this case in condition for allowance, and early notification to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAR, McCLELLAND,

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¹ JP 04327582 has been referred to as both <u>Takehisa</u> and <u>Fukuda</u> during prosecution herein. See, for example, footnote 2 at page 3 of the Board Decision.